(a) whether it is a fact that the post of Chairman, Regional Railway Recruitment Board, Bhubaneshwar, is lying vacant;

(b) if so, since when and the reasons therefor;

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to fill up the post;

(d) whether there is also any proposal to shift the office of this Recruitment Board from Orissa; and

(e) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir. A serving Railway Officer is presently holding charge of the post on *ad hoc* basis.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) UPSC have since selected and recommended Shri D. M. Mishra, retired I.P.S. Officer for the above post. Shri Mishra has been issued offer of appointment to the above post on 2-11-1988. The date of Shri Mishra taking over charge of the post is, however awaited.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Adult Educational Centres in Orissa

573. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Adult Education Centres in Cuttack, Kalahandi Phulabani and Korput districts of Orissa;

(b) what are the details of the total annual expenditure incurred thereon during 1986-87 and 1987-88; and

(c) what is the number of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and others, imparted education at these centres district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

National Highways in Andhra Pradesh

574. SHRI GOPALA RAO RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the proposal forwarded by the Andhra Pradesh Government to include Naidupet—Tirupati-Chittoor road connecting National Highways 5 and 4 as National Highway; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Owing to resources constraints and other priority conside-ations, it has not been possible to declare this road as a National Highway.

Passport Offices in Andhra Pradesh

575. SHRI GOPALA RAO RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to set up more passport offices in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal, locations selected and the amount earmarked for that purpose; and

(c) by when these offices are likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K. K. TEWARI): (a) to (c) In order to expedite issue of passports commensurate with security and other requirements, working of the Passport Offices is kept under constant review. This includes measures to streamline and modernise there offices and the possibility of opening additional Passport Liaison Offices at various places.